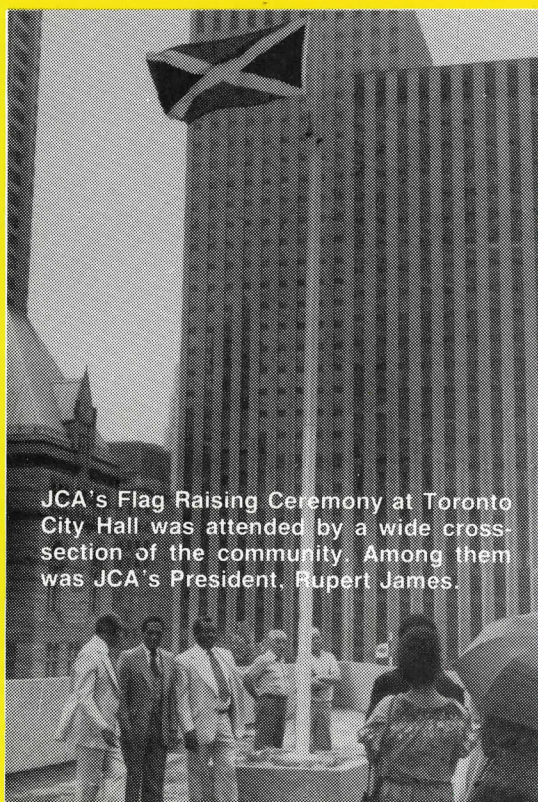
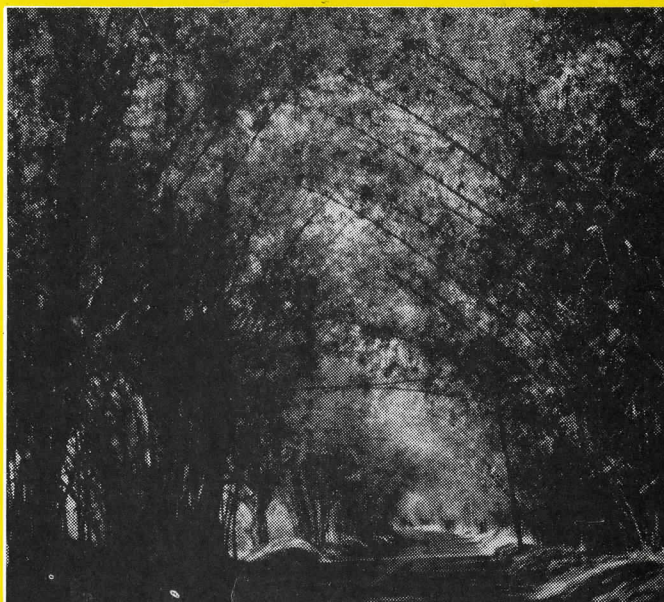


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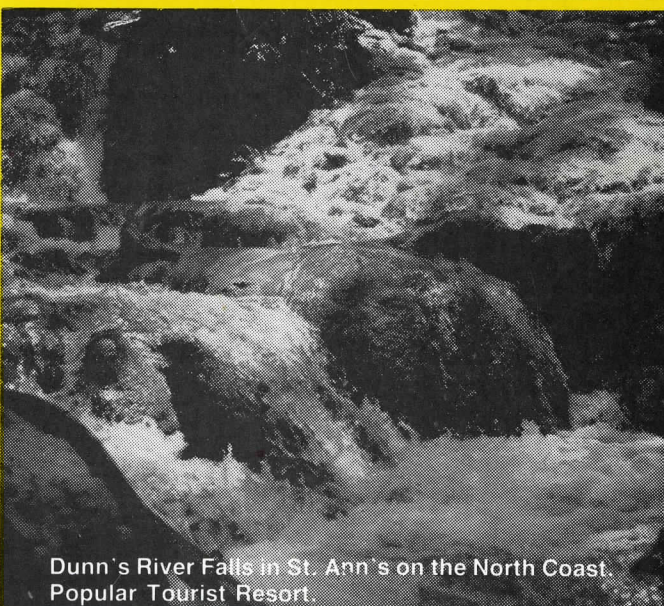
A Souvenir Publication Honouring Jamaica's 21st Anniversary and Highlighting the Jamaican-Canadian Association.



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JCA's Flag Raising Ceremony at Toronto City Hall was attended by a wide cross-section of the community. Among them was JCA's President, Rupert James.



Dunn's River Falls in St. Ann's on the North Coast. Popular Tourist Resort.

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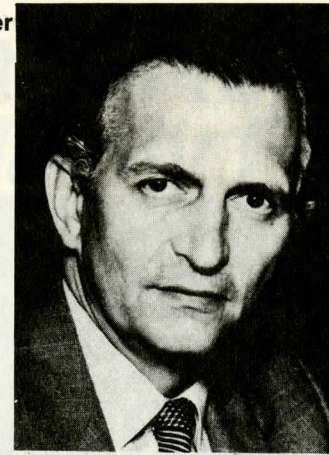


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**Edward Seaga, Prime Minister
of Jamaica**



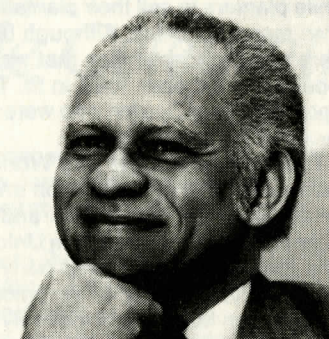
I am grateful for the kind invitation extended in your letter of June 10, on behalf of the Executive and Members of the Jamaican-Canadian Association for me to participate in the series of events planned to mark the 21st Anniversary of Jamaica and your association.

As I am sure you are well aware, a number of National events will mark the celebration of JAMAICA 21 here at home at which I must be present.

Regrettably, therefore, it will not be possible for me to be away from the island during the period of your celebrations.

I know that our Mission will do everything possible to help to make the celebration meaningful and I wish the efforts of your Association every success.

Edward Seaga
Prime Minister



Message to the Jamaican Canadian Association on the Occasion of its 21st Anniversary.

The Jamaican Canadian Association is as old as Jamaica's independence as a nation.

Born at a time of great national fervour it has rendered sterling service to the Jamaican community in Canada as a champion of good causes, a reminder of our heritage and a forum for discussion.

The Jamaican Canadian Association has now come of age. The successful completion of 21 years of service is indeed a time for celebration. It is also a time for reflection as well as preparation for the future.

In the future as in the past its fortunes and its hopes will be inextricably linked with our homeland - Jamaica. I am sure that members of the Jamaican Canadian Association will, like all Jamaicans overseas, continue to represent all that is best in us as a people - tolerance, insistence on fair play, and the right for every individual to develop to his or her highest potential.

I salute you on your twenty-first anniversary and share with you justified pride in your work over the years.

Leslie Wilson
High Commissioner for Jamaica.



EDITORIAL

Jamaicans living in Ontario and other parts of Canada have excelled in a number of areas over the years and as such we have made our mark in the Canadian society. But one thing we have not forgotten is that Jamaica is the land our birth and as such we continue to have close ties with the country.

Canada is our home now and we appreciate the fact that we can live as Canadians but still retain our Jamaican ties.

Jamaica 21, a souvenir publication celebrating Jamaica's 21st anniversary of Independence is an attempt to highlight some of the achievements made by Jamaicans here and to remind us of the Jamaica of long ago and Jamaica today.

In preparing this publication many individuals, including non-Jamaicans, have contributed greatly so that it could become a reality; and be successful. To those people I say thank you.

And to the many Jamaicans overseas who have joined with Jamaicans at home during 1983 to celebrate Jamaica 21, Happy Anniversary.

As we continue in our chosen fields and with our day-to-day lives we should remember that we will always be Jamaican ambassadors with a responsibility to act in such a way that will make both Canadians and Jamaicans proud.

Jamaica's motto - Out of Many, One People - should be an appropriate guideline which should always be remembered.

Eddie Grant.

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MASTHEAD

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Jamaica and Her History

By Nena Hohn

In 1494, when Christopher Columbus, an early European Explorer arrived in Jamaica, he found an established 100,000 Arawak Indians living there.

The Arawaks were a brown skinned race, short and slightly built, with straight coarse black hair, broad faces and flat wide noses. They believed in many gods. They were peaceful and survived on growing crops such as sweet potatoes, cassava, fruits and vegetables. Other crops included cotton, for weaving, and tobacco for smoking. They were also very adept in pottery making and painting. Some trading of cloth and pottery was done between Jamaica and Cuba. On May 5, 1494, Columbus claimed Jamaica in the name of Ferdinand and Isabel, King and Queen of Spain after a bloody battle with the Arawaks. However, it was not until 1510 that the first Spanish settlement was made in New Seville, today called St. Ann's Bay. The Spanish enslaved the Arawaks and overworked them into extinction.

By the 17th century, the British had become very uneasy about the Spanish Portuguese wealth from their new colonies and had made several unsuccessful attempts to capture some of the colonies for themselves. On May 10, 1655 as part of Lord Oliver Cromwell's "western design", aimed against the Spanish Power and Trade Monopoly to loosen Spain's grip on the West Indies, Jamaica was captured by the British under Admiral William Penn and General Robert Venables.

The Spanish trade monopoly gave rise to other groups of inhabitants to Jamaica: black slaves from Africa, who had made their first voyage in 1517. With the new British take over, most of these slaves ran away into the hilly interior of the island where they remained until the present day. They are called Maroons, meaning run away slaves.

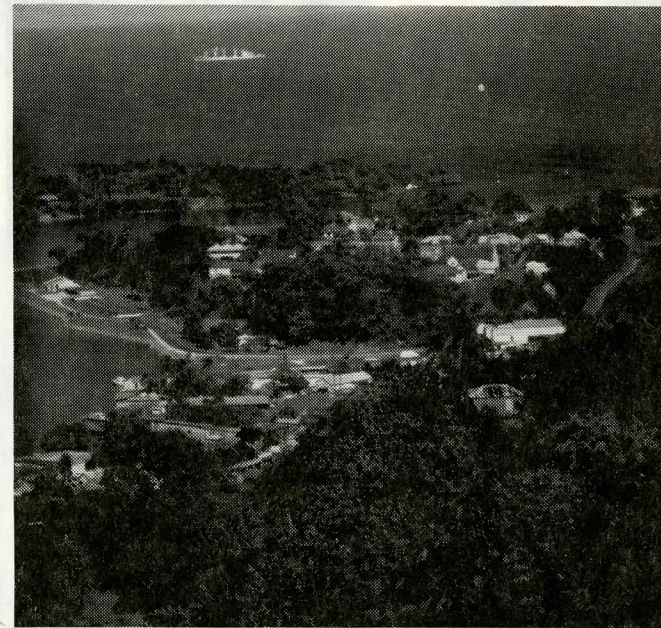
Another group of inhabitants were the buccaneers who were sea pirates. In 1664 when the Colony needed protection from the Dutch and then the French they defended Jamaica. In return they had a place, Port Royal, to sell their Spanish loot and repair their vessels. In time, Jamaica became a permanent home for legends such as Henry Morgan. Port Royal was destroyed on June 7, 1692 by earthquake.

The beginning of the 18th century saw the war between the French and British which later ended with the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713. Jamaica quickly became a stopover point for the slave trade. All was not well, due to the continual terror by pirates such as Errol Flynn, Edward Teach, the famed Black Beard and Jack Rackham better known as Calico Jack.

Pirates, and representatives of different nations were not the only ones who plagued the early British settlers. The Maroons had grown in number, not only naturally but also by spiriting away other slaves at night, then setting fire to the plantations. Several attempts were made by the British soldiers to eradicate the settlements. Only they were not accustomed to the interior of the island, or the fierce fighting strategies of the Maroons. On March 1, 1739 a peace treaty was signed between both groups after the destruction of Nanny Town, a famed Maroon settlement. The British had used tracking dogs to find the settlement.

With the New Treaty between the British and the Maroons, runaway slaves were now brought back to their masters. However, in 1807 William Wilberforce led a movement which successfully saw the abolition of the slave trade and by 1838 there was a complete emancipation from slavery.

With the emancipation of slavery, indentured workers were imported from India in 1840. They were treated worse than the slaves. The planters tried to kill them with work before their terms were up, so they would not have to pay them.



Port Antonio, capital of Portland where the Maroons live

The emancipation of slavery also caused many of the original white planters to sell their plantations to Jews and mixed bloods from merchant class. Although blacks were literally free, there were many opportunities that were denied them. This led to a rebellion, in October 1865, in St. Thomas, led by Paul Bogle and George William Gordon who were both hanged and in later years declared National Heroes.

The Outbreak of the first World War saw the island moving towards a crisis of depression and rebellions. These led to the formation of labour unions and associated political parties. Heading the Industrial Trade Union was Alexander Bustamante who formed an associated party, The Jamaica Labour Party.

Ironically, the only other unionist was a socialist, Norman Washington Manley who not only was the leader of the Peoples National Party, but was also cousin to Bustamante.

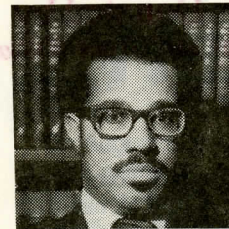
Bustamante brought home the new constitution for Independence from Great Britain on August 6, 1962. Both Manley and Bustamante have been made National Heroes.

The diversity of the present day Jamaicans is a result of the mixture of many races over a long period of time. They range in colour from "ash black" to "lily white". This is due to the migration of, first the Spanish settlers followed by African black slaves, East Asian, British and Irish indentured workers, Syrian, Jewish and Chinese and peddlers and shopkeepers. About 200 Germans at the beckoning of a Prussian doctor William Lemonus settled in Westmoreland.

Today, Jamaicans are all over the world. They helped build the Panama Canal; they went to New York to help to settle Harlem, to Britain to run the buses and hospitals, and as soldiers in the 1812 War. They also came to Canada, first as a stopover point in the Back To Africa Movement.

The Jamaican political arena has been even more colourful than its people. The results have been from gentle calm to bloody battles. The vicissitudes have been many, but Jamaica has survived to celebrate 21 years of independence.

See HISTORY page 22



Jamaica at 21 – Mainly People Problem

by Errol Townshend

DRAGON BAY, JAMAICA. The two-and-a-half million people of the world's most sophisticated poor nation are celebrating their 21st anniversary of independence. It is a muted, even sober time, coming after the traumatic 1970s when experimentation with Michael Manley's brand of democratic socialism rent the social fabric asunder and devastated the economy.

Allegedly, there is now, once again, an economic crisis. The government of Edward Seaga is suffering its mid-term blues after having revived an economy that was flat on its back; stringent measures have recently been introduced as even he hasn't been able to borrow all the money his debt-ridden country needs. Prices of items such as airfares, gasoline, drugs and food — in that order of importance here — have risen sharply. Jamaicans don't much care why. All they know is that they were promised that money would jingle in their pockets. They are now suffering the morning-after effects of what Manley so aptly calls "the carnival of consumerism" permitted by Seaga, presumably to make this highly materialistic society feel good about itself again after years of shortages. Alcoholics and drug addicts can empathize with the withdrawal symptoms some middle class Jamaicans are now feeling.

But in Jamaica, reality is not always what popular perception makes it out to be. Less than an hour-and-a-half from the steamy, still-nasty capital of Kingston is the Milk River Mineral spa.

Some experts rate its curative powers tops in the world. It is a priceless national asset. Ninety minutes by air to the north is Florida, the retirement capital of aging America. Florida's blue-rinse set would give its last blue-chip stocks for a dip in the spa's healing waters. But 21 years after Jamaicans lost Britain as a scapegoat for its failures, despite the addition of a swimming pool (out of action recently because a pump broke down), and in spite of brave talk of four successive governments, this goldmine remains a disorganized dump. In a country which once offered to teach Cuba about tourism, there is no lack of managerial talent to run a tourist resort, in spite of large-scale emigration in the 1970s. Problem: how to bring the managerial skill and the government-run spa together to make a few million. That is a snapshot of what Jamaicans will swear is an economic crisis from which there is no escape, Manley and Seaga not having lived up their promises of "Better Must Come" and "Deliverance".

Allegedly, there is also a water crisis. The patience of Kingstonsians and some rural farmers is taxed to the breaking point to obtain water for bathing and irrigation. The Kingston reservoir is as dry as a Cuban microdam; some experts say the underground distribution system is leaking. Meanwhile, over here on the other side of the Blue Mountains, in the verdant

Continued on page 23

Double Celebration for Jamaicans

By Eddie Grant and Nena Hohn

Kicking off the joint 21st Independence and anniversary celebrations of Jamaica and the Jamaican-Canadian Association was a Flag Raising ceremony at the New City Hall, on July 21st at 1 p.m.

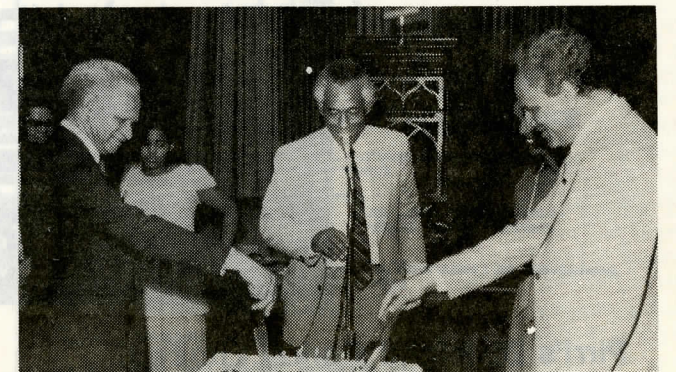
Among those in attendance were Rupert James, president of the Jamaican-Canadian Association, Bromley Armstrong and Roy Williams, two past presidents of the JCA.

This event was followed by a Thanksgiving Service at the prestigious St. Paul's Church at 227 Bloor Street East. About 1500 Jamaicans, Canadians and other West Indians from across Ontario and the United States attended.

In his welcome address to the congregation, Leslie Wilson, Jamaica's High Commissioner to Canada said, "This celebration reminds Jamaicans of their strength for weathering the storm over the last 20 years.

Representing the Anglican Diocese of Canada was Bishop Arthur Brown who encouraged Jamaicans to honour and appreciate each other's successes. He also told the congregation that we play a very important part in Canadian life and with God's help and our willingness to work long and hard we can become a Kingdom of many people living in one country thus reflecting the Jamaican Motto "Out of Many One People".

Jamaican-born Rev. L.A. Burke, a Roman Catholic Bishop in Nassau, Bahamas, told the audience that the church supports the struggles of Jamaicans and that every small country that seeks independence and sovereignty gets the full support of the church. He also said that he prays that "our entire nation be kept safe, and all Jamaicans of whatever colour or creed could live together in peace".



At cake cutting ceremony to mark Jamaica's 21st Anniversary, Leslie Wilson, Jamaica's High Commissioner to Canada (left) and Hon. Neville Gallimore, (Minister of State, Foreign Affairs). Looking on at centre is Jamaica Consul General Oswald Murray.

Cannon L. Harrison who delivered the sermon, gave thanks to God for Jamaica; for its beauty, its people, its freedom and independence. He also talked about Jamaica's struggle against poverty and recession. He asked Jamaicans to rededicate themselves to the goals of their country and told them it was important to remain loyal to their heritage. But he added that even though the past was important because of the sense of stability that it gives us, it is equally important to keep growing. He concluded his sermon by encouraging Jamaicans to work towards the improvement of life both in Jamaica and here in Canada.

See ANNIVERSARY page 17

Jamaica Twenty One — 5

REFLECTIONS by the First President of The Jamaican Canadian Association

Donated by
Roy and Grace Williams

by Roy Williams

It was the Spring and early Summer of 1962. Much was being said and done in Jamaica regarding the imminent emancipation of Jamaica from colonial status to join the growing ranks of independent nations. Jamaicans all over the world were elated at the prospects of independence and self-government.

In Toronto, in those days, there was only a handful of Jamaicans. Not many of us knew each other. We were very few and far between. We were a scattered band of rugged pioneers comprised of nurses responding to the shortage of nurses in Canada; students attending university; some household workers; and a few others who were brave enough to find themselves in Canada by various means.

There was no organization of Jamaicans — no clubs, no churches, no common meeting ground. Few Jamaicans owned their own homes then. We were really a part of nothing and needed to have an identity and to become a part of something.

The Jamaican Independence was the catalyst that enabled Jamaicans to come together to celebrate something significant in their history and to retain the structure for their future identification and well being.

One man made it all possible — Edmund S. Ricketts, an ageless veteran of many wars who tried to teach music to every black child (or adult) in the city. He played in every army band that marched, paraded or played anywhere in the city. He could be seen in every Santa Claus, Grey Cup and other parades playing his clarinet and marching like a man 40 years younger.

Ricketts was the man who walked the streets of Toronto (he always walked) and contacted every person whom he believed to be a Jamaican and invited them to meetings which were held in people's houses and apartments. He helped generate the enthusiasm for the celebration of the Jamaican Independence and for the creation of a permanent organization of Jamaicans following the event.

Some of the people whom Ricketts brought together for those initial meetings are: Vi Carter, Bromley Armstrong, Amy Nelson, Mavis Magnus, George King, Ira Dundas, Daphney White, Byron Carter, and Vi King. There were others because the numbers kept increasing as Ricketts continued his relentless recruiting. Some of the above were on the first Executive Committee of the newly-emerging Jamaican-Canadian Association.

The association has grown in power, influence and numbers to become one of the premiere organizations in this multicultural society. The road has not been an easy one. There have been pitfalls and traps. There have been skeptics and detractors. There have been those who would undermine or destroy the organization. However, it has survived these 21 years and its prospects have never been better. It can and will move on from strength to greater strength. It will accomplish the purposes for which it was founded.

This, then, is a tribute to the energy, dedication, enthusiasm, selflessness and vision of the late Edmund S. Ricketts who worked so tirelessly to translate a dream into a reality.

Awards Handed out

By Eddie Grant

On August 5, the Jamaican-Canadian Association hosted a double celebration in the form of a dinner and dance and an awards presentation. Honoured were Jamaicans and Canadians for their contribution to the association and the community at large.

The double celebration was also to celebrate Jamaica's 21st Anniversary of Independence and the JCA's 21st Anniversary.

Among the awards presented at the gala affair was the most prestigious, the order of distinction, which went to Bromley Armstrong who is very well known in the community as a man who wears many hats. Currently he is President of the newly formed Council of Jamaicans in Ontario. In addition, he is a founding member of the JCA.

Jamaica's Consul General Oswald Murray, read a letter addressed to Armstrong from Jamaica's Prime Minister Edward Seaga. In it, Seaga praised the work Armstrong has been doing for his fellowmen in Canada. Many who have known Armstrong over the years, were quite pleased with his new honour and congratulations poured in from many attending the function.

The second highest award was given to the 18 year old Jamaican, Mark Holness, Toronto's top Grade 13 student for 1983. Holness, who completed his school year with a 98.2 per cent average, received a standing ovation in recognition of his achievements. He was presented with a plaque by the JCA.

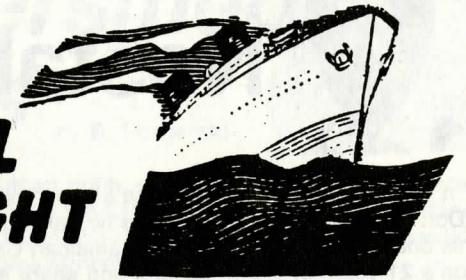
Plaques were also presented to members of the association for their dedication and outstanding service, while the long standing and supportive members in the association were awarded certificates. The dinner which was held at the OFL building in Don Mills attracted more than 300 guests and was attended by government representatives from the federal, provincial and municipal levels of government.

Among the dignitaries in attendance and those seated at the head table were Citizenship Court Judge, Stanley Grizzle, and Mrs. Constance Grizzle; Dennis Timbrell Ontario Minister of Agriculture; Roland De Corneille, Member of Parliament for Eglinton-Lawrence and Mrs. Corneille; Toronto Mayor, Art Eggleton; Allan Tonks, Mayor of York, and Mrs. Tonks; Consul General Oswald Murray and Mrs. Murray; Tony O'Donahue Senior Alderman of Toronto; Douglas Fisher, Member of Parliament for Mississauga.

Carol Rideau brought greetings from the Mayor of Scarborough while Esther Shinner brought greetings from Mel Lastman, Mayor of North York.

JCA President, Rupert James in his closing address, after thanking every one for attending, expressed the hope that the venue for next year's celebration would be the association's own building.

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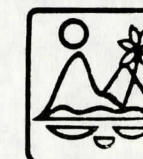
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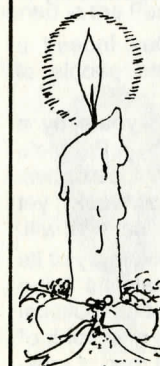
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Nostalgia-Agony and Ecstasy

by Hugh B. Evelyn

It was Stachell Paige, America's baseball great, who said: "Don't look back; something may be gaining on you." But for this once let's look back on the Jamaican Canadian Association's 21 years of life in Canada and share its nostalgia, with all the agonies and ecstasies on this, its 21st Anniversary.

The birth of JCA in August 1962 quite aptly coincided with Jamaica divesting itself of 307 years of British rule.

In an ideal world, immigrants of colour with culture perhaps different from their neighbours, may not need to organize themselves into what sometimes may be perceived as "isolation groups". Unfortunately we are not living in an ideal world. It is a world fraught with imperfection and intolerance.

Even if it were not so, it is a healthy community which finds harmony and unity among its own common denominator, as it does with its neighbours.

On September 23, 1962, the JCA held its first executive meeting under the leadership of young and energetic Roy G. Williams, the JCA's first president, aided by the team of Bromley Armstrong, George King, Ira Dundas, Mavis Magnus, J.B. Campbell, Owen Tennyson, Phyllis White, Vie Carter and Esmond Ricketts. They were selected by their peers to chart the course of an organization committed to the interest of Jamaicans living in Toronto.

That year, 1962, the association celebrated Jamaica's first independence celebration, a tradition it has kept ever since. Old timers will recall that night at the King Edward Hotel, when 11 year old Donna Armstrong, dancing to her father's congo drum, set the limbo record of 6 inches. Roy Williams in his maiden speech said: "For the first time in history, you have a flag; for the first time in history, you have an anthem; for the first time in history, you have a country - one of which you can be proud" Today, 21 years hence, those words still hold true.

JCA is famous for its annual picnics. Progress reports show that in May 1963 its first excursion of one bus went to Niagara Falls. This year, May 1983, seven (7) buses took the excursioners to Niagara Falls. Remember in 1979 how Byron Carter beat Errol Townshend in the 200 yards sprint - and that was before metric. Lillian Hatchett also beat off all challengers in the women's sprint. I am reminded of that old school song: "Gone are the days when my heart was young and gay."

Immigration:- JCA in 1962 and now, display a deep interest in immigration matters. In February 1963, Roy Williams served on the Executive Committee, Immigration Section, of the Social Planning Council.

Beauty Queens:- Although JCA's interest in beauty contests has waned, there were some good moments. Two events that come to mind: JCA succeeded in doing what the Caribbean Federation failed to do - they selected a Trinidadian one year as Miss J.C.A. and 1968 was a bonus year for beauty queens; 21 year old Patricia Fletcher was crowned. Not only was she accompanied by her chaperone Amy McDonald to meet the Governor General, but as a bonus, Lloyd Perry who was in Jamaica at the time was present too.

Speaking of Lloyd Perry, did you know that Lloyd was instrumental in getting JCA's first office space at 85 Lombard Street in 1963? He has been a friend for years.

Jamaica Government Office:- The establishment of an office in Toronto was due primarily to the persistent efforts and representations of JCA to the government(s) in Jamaica. The bond between that office and JCA has remained strong.

Who remembers the Trinity College Buttery? JCA held its first quarterly meeting there. Jamaica's Ambassador to Canada H.A. Maynier paid his first visit then to Toronto.

Police-Community relations:- This has always been a concern of the Association. In rummaging through the records, I note in its February 1963 newsletter, the following was reported under the caption: Member's complaint against the Police. The story said: "You have no doubt read in the papers about one of our members who was picked up by the police, unduly detained and discourteously treated. They have discussed the situation with us and apologized to the lady concerned. We shall continue to take the necessary steps to protect our civil liberties from unwarranted encroachment."

In the JCA's 1969 Annual Report, under the caption: Police and Ethnic Minority, the following was recorded: "This year there were fewer complaints about mistreatment by the police. The strong reaction by the public to the notorious film "Revolution Underway" probably resulted in a revision of the police methods of dealing with persons of colour."

Today, 1983, are we satisfied that police-community relations in the black and West Indian community have improved?

Agony:- I ran into an old newspaper clipping (elsewhere in this magazine) advertising the sale of the Old Mount Sinai Hospital. I understand the price was right. I never found out whose vote or voters caused the decision not to buy. What a gold mine lost! The disastrous fire that razed "Jamaica House"

Continued on page 19

Anniversary Celebration

by B. Fitz-Gerald

By its nature, a colonial government must ensure that a body of rules favourable to maximum extraction of wealth are rigidly adhered to. It cannot permit any person in the colony, however gifted or experienced that person may be, to make a decision that will substantially alter the regulations, or the law, or the order of things.

The vision of Marcus Garvey; the genius of men like J.A.G. Smith and Norman Manley in their fight for voters rights; the advent of Alexander Bustamante and his fight for the social and economic upliftment of the ordinary man, are all contributing factors in the history of Jamaica that helped to change Jamaica from a Crown Colony into an independent nation without bloodshed or dictatorship.

Whether the thwarting of a Caribbean federation was an act of wisdom is still a subject of debate. In August 1962, the baton was passed to a nation, now charged with the responsibility of "making decisions" for themselves.

August 6, 1962 was declared Independence Day. Indeed, a befitting gift to Alexander Bustamante and the people of Jamaica.

Jamaica, since 1962, has been governed 13 years by a Jamaica Labour Party government, and 8 years by a People's National Party government, both enunciating different ideologies. The economic and social struggles have indeed been rocky; yet the people of Jamaica have been steadfast in their national will.

August 6, 1983 marked our country's 21st Anniversary of its independence. Jamaica has come of age. Jamaicans living abroad fervently hope that this will be the year that the political adherents and the people of Jamaica will forge a new spirit of unity and goodwill that will take our country along a road of prosperity, peace and love.

Jamaicans in Diversified Occupations

by B. Fitzgerald

Since the evolution of Canada's immigration policy, many Jamaicans have migrated to this country.

The early sixties marked the greater influx although there are many who have been in this country since long before the sixties.

Too often Canadians and even ourselves forget that there are many, many Jamaicans who are making a worthwhile contribution to the development of the Canadian society. The adult population by and large have in many instances brought their skills and professions to this country, and have unobtrusively assimilated into occupations in governments and private enterprises.

Those mentioned here are but a few who are engaged in the various occupations, but the intent is to reflect the diversity of the areas of contribution.

Education:

There is a significant number of Jamaicans engaged in the education system of this province. They can be found at the primary and high school levels as well as at community colleges and universities. To name a few, we have Dr. Inez Elliston, currently holding a position with the Scarborough Board of Education as a Consultant on Immigrant and Community Education. Maud Fuller, Sylvia Pusey, Winston Vin Conville, Dr. George Eaton, Prof. Hector Massey, Don Williams, Dr. Barry Bachelor at Queen's University, and a host of others.

Medicine & Health

A significant number of doctors, dentists, psychiatrists, optometrists and other specialists are making their contribution in Toronto. Dr. Granville DaCosta, an eminent child psychiatrist at the Clarke Institute, is an expert on problems facing West Indians in Canada. Dr. Douglas Jones is a practising dentist in the city of Toronto. He held the position of president of the Toronto Dental Society. Dr. John Meikle is another practising dentist in Toronto, along with many others. Dr. F.G. (Buddy) McIntosh is in general practice and is a specialist in Otolaryngology. Carolyn Joyce Jarret practises as an Optometrist in Toronto. There are so many others that could be mentioned. There are a large number of nurses employed in the various hospitals in Toronto and Ontario.

Governments:

Jamaicans are employed in all levels in the provincial and federal governments. George Brown, for example, is currently Executive Director of the Ontario Human Rights Commission. Dr. Mavis Burke, worked in the Ontario Ministry of Education, and is currently Chairperson of the Advisory Council on Multiculturalism and Citizenship. Joy Gordon, former announcer with the Jamaica Broadcasting Corporation is now a senior governmental affairs officer with the province of Ontario, stationed in the Paris office. Bromley Armstrong, well known in the

civil rights and human rights circles, and a founding member of JCA is presently on the Labour Relations Board of Ontario. Knollis Johnson, a Jamaican, holds an administrative position with the federal government in Toronto.

Legal & Justice:

There are many Jamaican lawyers in private practice in the city of Toronto. Two that come to mind are Eric Lindsay, Q.C. and Errol Townshend, and there are others. Allan Brown, a Jamaican lawyer has been with CN for many years. Keith Hoilett, a Jamaican, was appointed as County Court Judge and serves that position with distinction. Hugh Evelyn, for many years has been employed to the Attorney General's department as a court reporter.

Police:

The Metropolitan Toronto Police Force employs a few Jamaicans. Those that come to mind are Sgt. Larry McLarty, Al Evelyn, Neville Watson, Karl Oliver, Astor Buchanan and others who are playing their part in the law enforcement area of this community.

There are many other Jamaicans not mentioned here, who are making their contributions in the private enterprise area.

One would hope that in the near future there will be many employed in positions of decision of governments and private industry. We look forward to the day when a Jamaican or West Indian will be promoted to a Senior position in the Metropolitan Toronto Police Force.

Radio & Music

The soul of Jamaica is in its music; the pulsating rhythm that stirs the still to life. Jamaicans residing in Toronto therefore, are a significant part of the music scene, sometimes dubbing harsh and back-home reggae, and other times presenting a repertoire of cross-pollinated North American soul and reggae sounds.

Jackie Mittoo was one of the early Jamaica musicians of talent to be in Toronto. His versatility is evidenced in his on-stage performances and his recordings. His music is featured regularly on radio stations such as CFRB and CKEY.

Audley Williams is another Jamaican of enormous musical talent in Toronto. Audley is a quiet unassuming person, and while he is a proponent of reggae, his music has a distinct Latin flare.

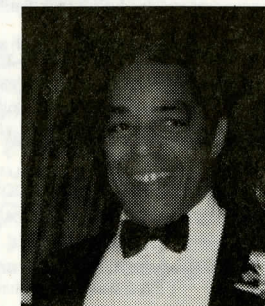
Winston Hewitt, Jamaican-born singer, songwriter and producer is another successful addition to the Toronto music scene. He is the owner of Boss Records & Dynamusic Publishing Company.

Leroy Sibbles, now resident in Toronto, is another superstar who is at the top of the ladder of success. Leroy has made the big time in Canada and is known internationally.

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George Brown



Bromley Armstrong



Mike Thompson

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Media

On CBC radio, Jamaicans can hear the voice of Keeble McFarlane, noted for his analytical presentation of local and international events. Dwight Whyllie is also an important cog in the CBC newsroom. Donna Chung, although more recently, is another Jamaican currently at the CBC Radio.

Constantine Chung, commonly known as "Junior Chung" is prominent among at least seven Jamaicans in Toronto who are actively involved in promoting reggae on radio. Junior has worked at CHIN-FM, where he produced his own show - "The Junior Chung Affair". He has held the position of production assistant at CKEY, programme director at CING-FM 108, and is currently Station Operations Manager. Junior is a graduate of Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, graduating in 1964 with a Bachelor of Applied Arts Degree.

Hamlin Grange, once a track and field star is known for his columns in the Toronto Star.

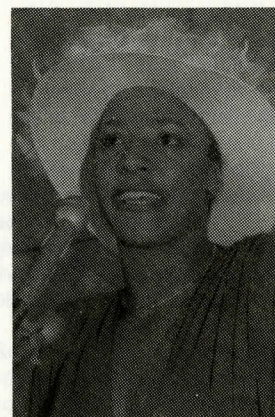
Royston James is also another Jamaican in the media field with the Toronto Star Eastern Bureau.

Cindy Reyes is a popular television personality. She is concise, clear and a pleasure to listen to. There are many other Jamaicans playing their part in media and radio in Toronto and in Canada.

Sports

Canada's prestige in international track and field competitions has been boosted greatly by the performances of world-class athletes of Jamaican heritage.

Angella Taylor has distinguished herself as a first-class sprinter



Angela Taylor

and is the Commonwealth Games 100 metres gold medallist. Molly Killingbeck is ranked No. 3 in Canada over 100 metres,



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and has won many gold medals in the 400 metres.

Angela Bailey, a young athlete with incredible natural speed, has distinguished herself as one of Canada's premier sprinters. She is currently Canada's Junior Champion.

Taylor, Bailey and Killingbeck will no doubt be representing Canada in the 1984 Olympics, and their achievements have assured them a special place in Canadian track history.

Milt Ottey, the world's premier high jumper, and Ben Johnson, Canadian record holder over 50 yards, are two athletes of Jamaican stock who have also distinguished themselves in International Meets. Ottey, who is currently attending university in Texas has established himself as the one to beat in the 1984 Olympics. Ben Johnson, with Desai Williams, Tony Sharpe and Guyana's Mark McKoy continue to give world-class performances as a Relay team.

Charles Peart, a young Jamaican, born a thalidomide baby has represented Canada in the Special Olympics for Handicapped, and is a three time gold medallist in track and field.

Academic Achievement

Young Jamaicans in Toronto, although unheralded, have been making remarkable strides in higher education. Over the past decade, many have opted for professional pursuits in Canadian Universities.

Special mention for 1983 however, goes to Mark Holness, son of Lloyd and Otis Holness. He came to Canada in 1973 and this year he was Metro Toronto's top student, achieving a 98.2% average in Grade 13, and winning a University of Toronto scholarship.

Business Success

Jamaicans living in Toronto and elsewhere in Canada, have been successful in the business field. Given time and a conducive economic climate, we will see them engaging in larger businesses. The enormous buying power of West Indians in Toronto will certainly act as a catalyst in motivating the development of the type of business, which will ensure an impact on the province's economy.

Kamil Azan, a pioneer in the hairdressing business, has established one of the most thriving businesses in Toronto.

The Shoucairs, proprietors of "Joyce's West Indian Food Store", are Jamaicans who have developed a successful business in the community.

Florizel and Genevieve Spence, owners of a large bakery and grocery establishment in Toronto are again shining examples of success in business. Their two children are distinguished in the academic and music fields.

Jamaicans like Tony Figueroa and Leithan LaFayette, among others, have distinguished themselves in the travel business. Tony Figueroa has been a community-oriented person since his tenure at Air Jamaica. Many nationals have also blossomed in the insurance and real estate businesses.

Donald Brooks, a native of St. Ann, came to Canada in 1973, and during that time has emerged as a top real estate salesman, selling over \$10 million worth of business.

Denny Jolly is another successful entrepreneur and businessman. Quite recently, he has added the Contrast newspaper to his list of businesses.

Jamaicans engaged in many other businesses in Toronto — stock brokerage, building industry, electrical contracting, security business, service-oriented businesses and innumerable small businesses — are all contributing to the economy of Ontario and of Canada.

Ralph Chong is also one of the foundation businessmen in Toronto. "Ralph's Patties" is a household word in the city.

Winston Chin and Allan Chin are also successful restaurant and bakery businessmen in Toronto and Scarborough.

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Jamaica and Canada agree on Social Security

Canada's Health and Welfare Minister Monique Begin and Jamaica's Minister of Social Security for Jamaica, Neville Lewis, yesterday announced that the reciprocal Agreement on Social Security between their two countries will come into force on January 1, next year.

Lewis is currently in Canada on an official visit during which Canadian and Jamaican social security officials will be discussing operating procedures for implementing the agreement and other matters of common interest.

The Canada-Jamaica Agreement on Social Security was signed on January 10, this year, by Begin and Lewis. The two countries recently completed the ratification procedures required by their respective legislation prior to the coming-in-force of the agreement.

The agreement coordinates the operation of the Canada Pension Plan and the Old Age Security Act with the Jamaican social security programs which provide old age, survivor and disability benefits. Approximately 2,200 Canadian residents may become eligible for benefits as a result of this agreement. Canada's overall estimated cost will be \$4 million for the fiscal year 1984-85.

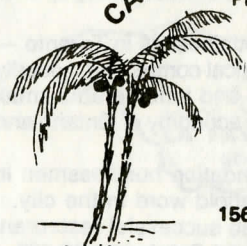
Both Canada and Jamaica impose minimum conditions for residence and/or contributions for individuals to qualify for social security benefits. Under the terms of the agreement, persons who reside or who have resided in Canada and in Jamaica will be able to combine social security credits earned in both countries in order to satisfy the minimum eligibility requirements for benefits from one or both countries.

Once eligibility is established, the agreement provides a means of calculating the amount of benefit to be paid by each country in accordance with its own legislation. The amount of such benefits is related to the periods of residence or contributions credited to the individual in each paying country.

The agreement also enables interested provinces to negotiate understandings with Jamaica to coordinate their social security programs with the equivalent Jamaican programs. These might include any social security program administered by provinces.

Residents of Canada who wish to obtain more information about this agreement may contact their nearest Income Security Programs office or write to the International Operations Division, Income Security Programs Branch, Health and Welfare Canada, Ottawa K1A 0L4.

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A Message from the JCA's President



The Jamaican Canadian Association has now become synonymous with Jamaica's growth and the development of Jamaicans since our independence.

As Jamaicans in Canada, we must extend our thanks and congratulations to the founders of JCA, who 21 years ago had the vision, foresight and innovative spirit that enabled them to organize and establish such a great and viable organization that weathered the rough and difficult times faced over these years.

Congratulation to all the past presidents and their administrations for the wonderful job they all did in laying a strong foundation, thereby enabling the JCA to develop and mature to the age of 21.

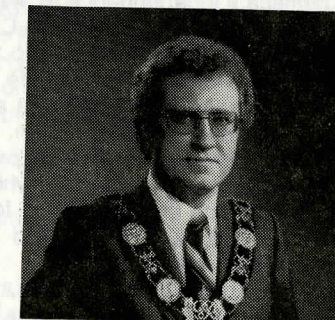
This year, for the second time, the JCA was able to raise the Jamaican Flag at Nathan Phillips Square. This was not only to celebrate Jamaica's birthday but also to commemorate with pride, the memory of some of our founding and long standing members who have now passed on, such as Mrs. King and Mr. Ricketts. Congratulation also to those alive and active.

As a mature organization, we are now expected to give and deliver all kinds of leadership services both here in Canada and in our native country. I hope we can rise to face the challenges of the future and give more of ourselves to build a better society.

The JCA has served the Jamaican, West Indian and Canadian communities very well over the last years and intends to serve you more in the future. To help us do this we need your support in acquiring a community centre. I welcome everyone to join us and be a part of this project.

Once again, congratulations to everyone for a job well done and I am proud to be president of the Jamaica Canadian Association on this, the 21st anniversary.

Rupert James
President



Greetings from the City of Toronto

I take pleasure in extending greetings to the Jamaican/Canadian Association on the occasion of your 21st Anniversary, and your celebration of the 21st Anniversary of Jamaican independence.

Toronto enjoys the reputation of being a multicultural society, where Canadians of many ethnic backgrounds live and work in harmony. The contribution of the Jamaican community has added greatly to this reputation.

I welcome this opportunity of wishing you well during this celebration of your heritage and culture.

Art Eggleton
Mayor,
The City of Toronto

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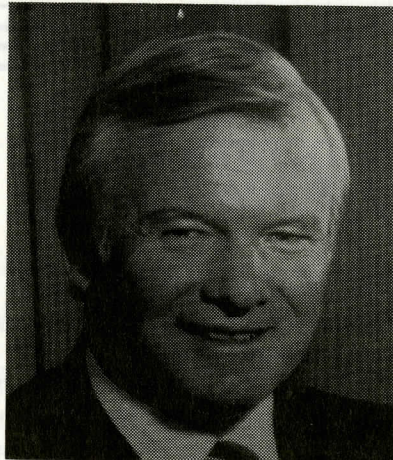
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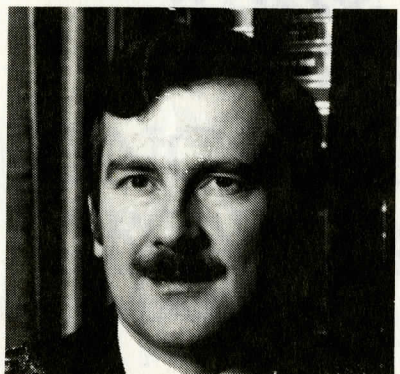
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Ontario Premier William Davis



Paul Godfrey



Alan Tonks



Police Chief Jack Ackroyd

On the occasion of your joint celebration of the 21st Anniversary of the declaration of the Independence of Jamaica on August 2, 1983, I extend to the Jamaican-Canadian Association and to the Jamaica community the congratulations of the people and the Government of Ontario.

The marking of this milestone in the annals of your homeland is an event of great significance to you all and I can appreciate the joy that you must feel today.

This gathering is also an opportune time for me, as Premier, to acknowledge the contribution that our people of Jamaican ancestry are making to Ontario's vibrant society through the quality of your citizenship and through sharing with us your enriching cultural traditions of great warmth, spirit and vitality.

May the celebrations of this day of Jamaican national pride and of 21 years of service and achievement by the Jamaican-Canadian Association be for all both enjoyable and memorable.

William G. Davis
Premier of Ontario

On behalf of the Members of Council and residents of The Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto it is a sincere pleasure to extend congratulations on the occasion of the 21st anniversary of the Jamaican-Canadian Association.

Your Association has made a substantial contribution to the residents of Metropolitan Toronto through the dedication of your membership and your concern for the well-being of your fellow Canadians.

We are proud and honored to acknowledge this special milestone in the Jamaican-Canadian community and to extend our appreciation for your active participation and subsequent enhancement of the quality of life in our municipality.

Best wishes for a most enjoyable celebration.

Paul V. Godfrey
Chairman
Metropolitan Toronto Council

It gives me great pleasure to bring greetings to you on behalf of the City of York Council. 1983 marks the 21st Anniversary of Jamaica's Independence as well as the 21st Anniversary of the formation of the Jamaican-Canadian Association. While teaching in Jamaica from 1965 to 1967 I was introduced to and enjoyed the Jamaican way of life. The brotherhood which existed in Jamaica has been kept alive in Canada through the Jamaican-Canadian Association. The 21 year history of the association proves that they are providing a very desirable program of activities for Jamaicans who are now residing in Canada.

I congratulate the association for their success in enriching Canada's cultural heritage and extend best wishes to our Jamaican-Canadians.

Warmest regards,

Alan Tonks
Mayor
City of York

On the occasion of the 21st Anniversary of Jamaica's Independence Day, I am very pleased at having the opportunity of bringing greetings to you from all members of the Metropolitan Toronto Police Force.

I also extend my congratulations to the members of the Jamaican Canadian Association which is now celebrating its 21st year of service in the community.

Jack Ackroyd
Chief of Police

It gives me great pleasure to extend greetings to you on the occasion of the 21st anniversary of Jamaican Independence and the 21st anniversary of the Jamaican-Canadian Association.

You are to be congratulated for your efforts over the past 21 years. Building a strong association like yours require the hard work and dedication of many volunteers. Your longevity is a credit to the many individuals who have donated their valuable time.

On this auspicious occasion I would like to wish you continued success in the years to come.

Cordially,

Mel Lastman
Mayor,
North York

I am pleased to have this opportunity to extend greetings and congratulations to your executive and membership on the occasion of your gathering to celebrate the 21st anniversary of the Jamaican Independence and also the formation of the Canadian Jamaican Association.

I have been pleased to support your association over the years which has strong ties to this City and I take this opportunity to welcome all your visitors to Scarborough and extend best wishes as you celebrate the anniversary of Jamaican Independence.

Yours truly,

Gus Harris
Mayor

I wish to extend my sincere congratulations to my friends at the Jamaican-Canadian Association on your pleasant achievement of the 21st Anniversary of the association. I wish, too, to recognize your celebration of the 21st year of Jamaica's Independence.

It has been my pleasure to have come to know many of the people of the association and to have enjoyed their friendship and hospitality over the years. As part of the Jamaican-Canadian Association these people have helped to promote your common interests and strived to increase a greater understanding among all Canadians of the important purpose of the Association.

May I, once again, congratulate every member of this association on the occasion of these joint anniversaries and commend you, on behalf of all citizens of Etobicoke for your active participation in this very significant organization.

Yours very truly,

Dennis Flynn
Mayor
City of Etobicoke

On behalf of the members of East York Council and all the residents of the Borough of East York, I want to extend greetings to those Jamaicans who now consider Canada their home, and a particularly warm "Hello!" to those who have chosen to reside in the Borough of East York.

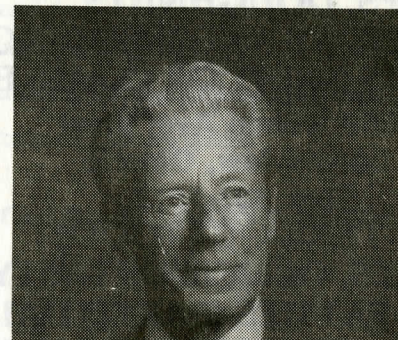
On the occasion of the 21st anniversary of the Jamaican Canadian Association as well as the 21st anniversary of Jamaica's independence from Britain, I congratulate you on your strength as a very viable portion of Toronto's community, and on your contribution to not only the Borough of East York, but to our country.

Yours sincerely,

David J. Johnson
Mayor
Borough of East York



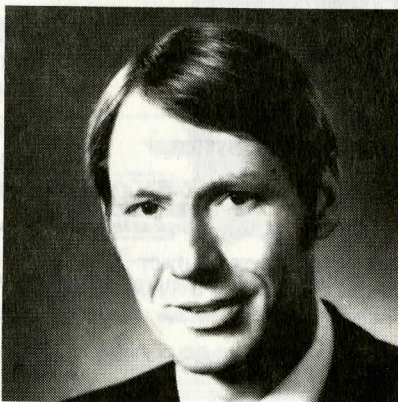
Mel Lastman



Gus Harris



Etobicoke Mayor, Dennis Flynn



East York Mayor, David Johnson

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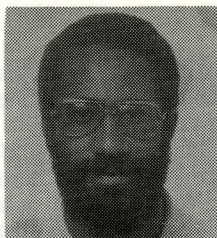
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COUNTRY LIFE

By L.S. (Bill) De Lisser

The year is 1957. The place is Adelphi in the Parish of St. James, Jamaica.

It's 5 a.m. on a Wednesday morning. I awake to the constant ring of my grandfather's alarm clock; the one he brought back from Cuba. The alarm usually goes off at 5.30 a.m. but for the past two weeks I have been in punishment. I had to read a chapter of the Bible to my grandfather every morning. My crime was to have a catapult - you see catapults were banned in my house.

We have cows, and cows have eyes, and catapults are aimed at cows eyes by bad boys in our district. Well, my catapult was only made to shoot birds but who would believe an 11 year old? Surely not my grandfather. We all called him daddy so I will refer to him as daddy. Why did I live with daddy? You see, my parents had emigrated to England and left us, my sisters and brothers, with daddy until they were able to send for us in England.

Anyway that's a long story, but back to the alarm at 5 a.m. I got out of bed, rubbed my eyes, grabbed my Bible and rushed into daddy's bedroom.

Having completed my morning's reading you would think that I could go back to bed, well just read on. My grandfather had 15 cows, three donkeys, 10 goats, 5 pigs and many chickens. Henry was the name of our yard boy and it was Henry and myself who had to milk the cows and feed the animals everyday. Daddy also farmed sugar cane and bananas.

I put my clothes on, washed my face and went outside to saddle my donkey. By this time it is about 5.45 a.m., the dogs are up, the cock is crowing and the whole yard is alive with animal activity. The cows are feeding at Content Farm which is about two miles from my home. Henry and I saddled our donkeys, filled the milk containers with water and rode off to do our milking. On our way to Content we ate oranges and a couple of mangoes. This particular morning I remember clearly, because I had a mock scholarship exam at 10 a.m. at our school, so I could not be late.

Since daddy only cared about his cows being milked it was useless to tell him about my test so I told Henry instead. Henry was a swell guy so we decided to hurry along in the morning trotting the donkeys when we could. I prayed that everything would go well this morning, the cows would milk easily, the calves would suck to give us a second milking, and no cows would have gone astray and I would be back home in time to be at school early. Wishful thinking. When we got to the farm, Molly, one of the milking cows, had broken her chain and bolted. Henry suggested that he start milking and I should go in search of Molly. I knew it was going to be a very long search, as Molly was very temperamental. She had cut nipples and we often had to tie both legs in order to do the milking. I searched and searched but no Molly in sight. I wandered to other farms and inquired of Molly but no one had seen her. With tears in my eyes I made my way back to Henry breaking the news as I arrived. By this time Henry had nearly completed milking the other cows.

If you think Molly was bad my grandfather was much worse, so Henry and I decided that I would take the milk to the milk station and he would stay behind and search for Molly. I also decided to top the milk up with water in case Daddy inquired as to how much milk was dispatched that morning - Oh I know that's cheating, but who cares, when a hiding is the alternative.

By the time I arrived home it was nearly 9 a.m., school was nearly 15 minutes away. For sure I was going to be late. I hurriedly

See REMEMBERING page 25

Continued from page 5

Other participating clergymen in the service were the Rev. Kenrick Sharpe, The Rev. Vincent Smith, son of the late Rev. Smith of Kingston, and Rev. Winston Brown, also a Jamaican.

The Heritage Singers, a very popular group of spiritual and folk singers in Toronto, participated in the ceremony. Also participating were Joyce Britton, Rudolf Comacho who sang the Jamaica National Anthem, and Norma Phillips. Organist was Clement Ishmael. Members of the Commonwealth Sports Club performed the duty of ushers.

The service was followed by an informal gathering in the Church Hall, where Dr. Neville Gallimore, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, and Jamaica's High Commissioner Leslie Wilson assisted in the cutting of an anniversary cake. Representing the Ontario Government was the Hon. Tom Wells, Minister of Inter-governmental Affairs. Also present were Ruby Martin, wife of the Custos of St. Andrew and Lloyd Perry, Official Guardian of Ontario.

The celebrations continued the following weekend, August 5, when approximately 300 people gathered for dinner at the Ontario Federation of Labour Building, in Don Mills.

Bringing greetings from the federal government and Guest speaker for the event was Rev. Roland de Corneille, Member of Parliament for the Eglinton-Lawrence Riding. In his address de Corneille advised everyone to support their community leaders because it was only through organizations like the JCA that the government becomes aware of important non-governmental issues. De Corneille also spoke of the individual contributions being made to Canadian Society by Jamaican Canadians and saluted Bromley Armstrong, recipient of the Order of Distinction Award, and Rupert James, President of the JCA for their strength and example of freedom in their desire to liberate and promote their community.

Other speakers for the evening included Alan Tonks, Mayor of York, Toronto's Mayor Art Eggleton, Hon. Tom Wells, Minister of Inter-Governmental Affairs and Consul General Oswald Murray who, on behalf of the Jamaican Government, announced that Bromley Armstrong was awarded the Order of Distinction.

Another feature of the evening was the presentation of plaques and certificates to honorary or long standing, members supportive and or dedicated to the JCA.

On August 6, 1 p.m. the celebrations continued with a Festival at Nathan Phillips Square featuring a cross section of Jamaican-Canadian talent. There were arts and crafts displays, dancers, singers, musicians and a fashion show. Also, on August 6, at Toronto's City Hall there was a reception hosted by Mayor Eggleton for some members of the Jamaican Community.

The final event was the annual JCA Independence Dance held at the St. Lawrence Market Place. Special guest was the Minister of Youth and Community Development for Jamaica, the Hon. Errol Anderson who was on his way to the World Track and Field Games in Helsinki.

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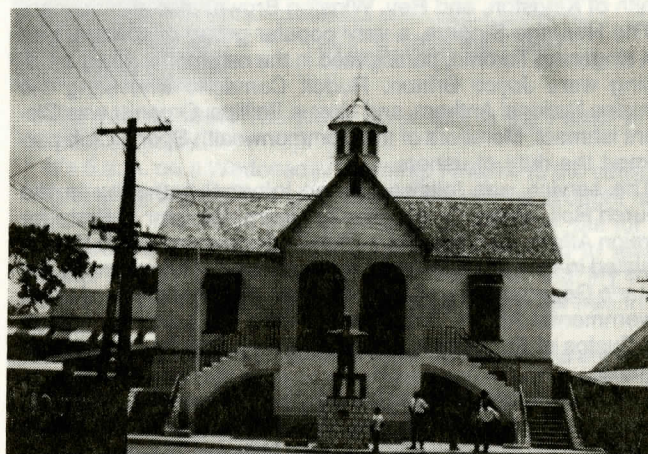
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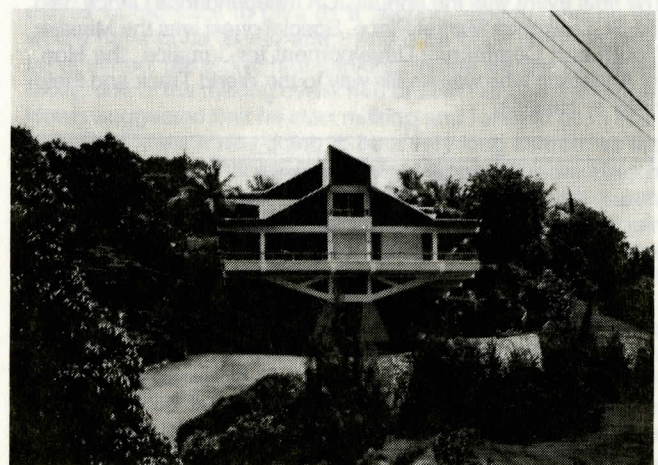
Tourist Attractions



The Morant Bay Court House in the parish of St. Thomas is a notable Jamaican landmark. The sculpture, a statue of Jamaican hero, Paul Bogle, was done by Edna Manley.



Hope Gardens, part of the Botanical Gardens in Kingston is a must for visitors.



This house, in the shape of a boat, stands out in the Red Hills area of Kingston and St. Andrew.

on Dawes Road is another one of the association's agonizing moments.

There are innumerable moments of ecstasies in the life of JCA - the purchase of the building on Dawes Road. A strong and good decision by the then president and the executive. Old Timers Nite at Jamaica House, another happy moment. It rekindled the spirit and will of past members and newer members. Perhaps it is that spirit of revival that JCA so urgently needs to fulfill its dream of a "Jamaica House".

The efforts by the association, so ably assisted by Ossie Murray, in having the body of Vinette Henningham returned home to be buried with dignity, is another landmark in JCA's history.

The association never forgot the little kids. The annual Bun and Cheese party and the goodies at Christmas time. And there were black Santa Clauses too - Byron Carter in 1975 and Gifford Walker in 1978. Now that women are fighting for "equal pay for equal work", how about Carmen Jens for 1983 Santa Claus?

Oldies but goodies: - Gwen Wolfenden, who added some colour to the association; Gilbert Bruce, Gladstone Hylton, Cisllyn and Inez Hylton; Al Stewart Gaynor, Karl Fuller, Mel Thompson, Neville Walters, Eva Smith, Rafeleeta Walker, the late Mrs. King, Mrs. Armstrong, Connie Whittaker, Monica Marsh, Jack Young, Canute Cato, Frank Wallace, Joan Senior, Adlyn, Don Biggs, Derryck Anderson, Amy Nelson, Jean Gammage, Harry Gairey, Headley Tulloch, Flo Brown - and the list goes on. There are numerous others who played their part over the years.

Oops - I almost forgot the retirees who are still going strong - Why do you think I mean Alton Telfer? After all he said the prayer at one Independence Dinner. So did Buddy McIntosh too.

The prominent parts played by Erma Collins and Ariadne Johnson in the Education Committees and Black History Week are part of JCA's notable history. The ever present Lord Fred and his music is a source of happiness to the association. Bromley Armstrong's little black book and the stormy meetings are all part of the nostalgia.

The programs and projects over the years to assist various needy areas in Jamaica have been part of the history of JCA. The spirit of co-operation between JCA and all levels of governments in Canada and Ontario has contributed tremendously to the success of its social programs. Bev Folkes' tremendous effort in the Jane-Finch area must not be forgotten.

The hectic elections are part of the association's history. Remember the cliff-hanger in 1980 when Miah Bailey beat Hugh Morris by a single vote for 1st Vice President.

One could go on forever chronicling the agonies and ecstasies of the Jamaican-Canadian Association; the anecdotes would fill a book too. I, also, had my share in contributing to the agony and ecstasy of JCA, so others who did, do not feel lonely.

All in all, JCA is a winner. It has survived 21 years of life in Canada, but do not forget there is a hard row yet to be hoed; there are more challenges ahead. Time changes, so do priorities. And the challenge that faces JCA is to remain relevant. Happy 21st ANNIVERSARY.

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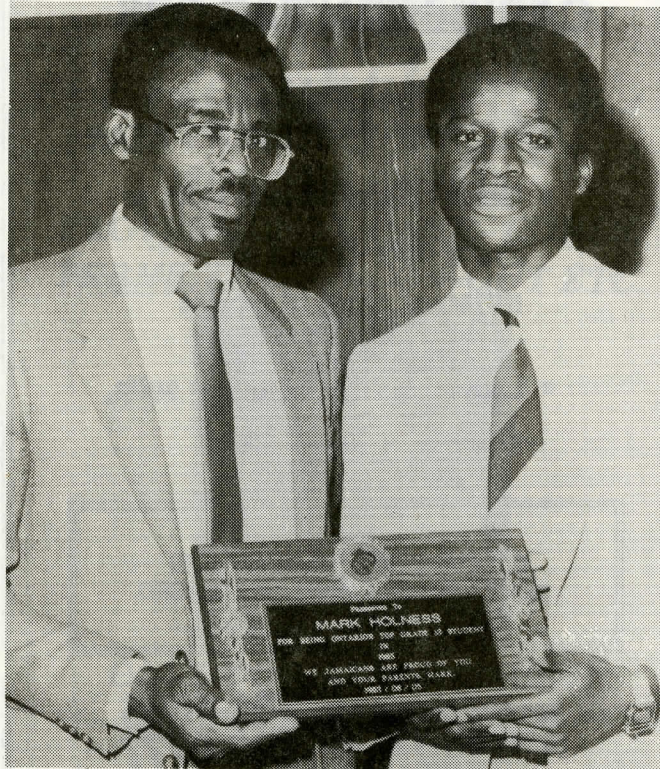
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Raphelita Walker receives congratulatory kiss and plaque from Joe Cross.



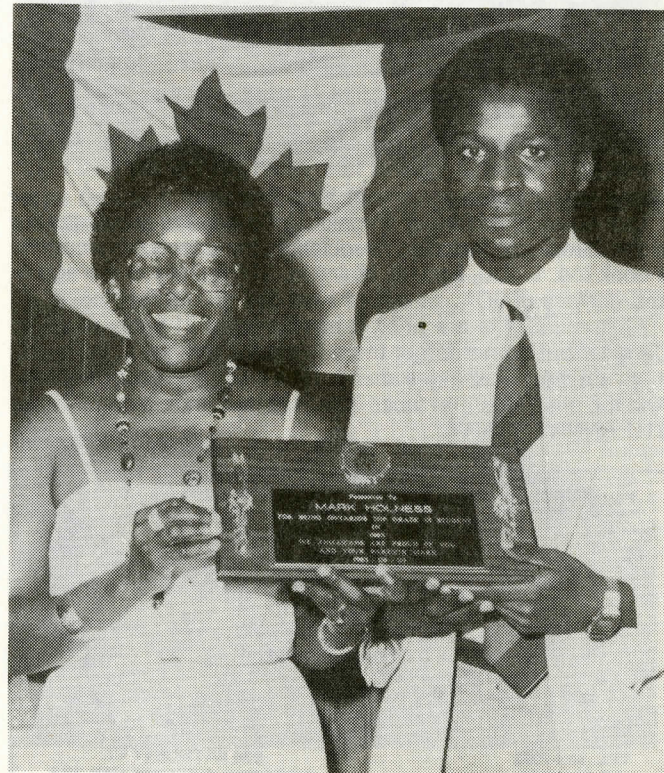
City of Toronto alderman, Ying Hope, receiving plaque from Daphne Bailey. Seated at right, Jamaica Minister of Labour J.A.G. Smith.



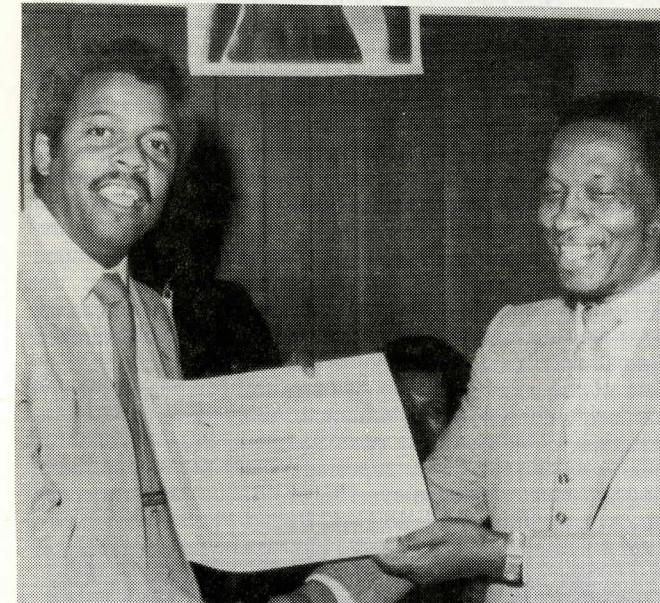
Mark Holness (right) poses with his proud father.

Milford Lloyd Holness

20 — Jamaica Twenty One



Mark Holness, top Ontario High School student receives an Award from Erma Collins, Executive Secretary of JCA.



Alvin Curling (left) receiving a Certificate of Appreciation from JCA's executive, Roy Williams



Gladstone Hylton (left) receiving a Plaque from the Association's past president, Roy Williams



Joe Cross, past chairman of JCA Social Committee receiving award from JCA's first president, Roy Williams, with Nehemiah Bailey, 2nd V.P. (right).

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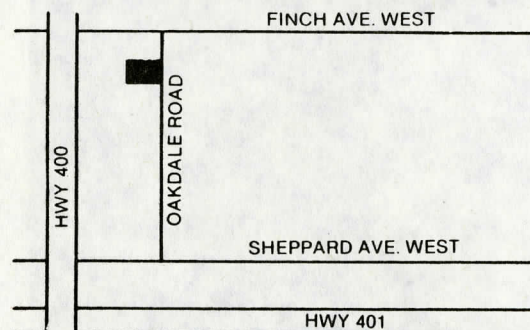


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Continued from page 4

In 1967 Sir Alexander Bustamante resigned as Jamaica's Prime Minister and leader of the Jamaica Labour Party. His successor, Sir Donald Sangster, ruled from February 22, 1967 to April 11 of the same year when he died. Hugh Shearer was appointed Prime Minister until he lost to Michael Manley on March 2, 1972. Manley served for two consecutive terms as Jamaica's fourth Prime Minister until October 30, 1980 when he lost to Edward Seaga, the present Prime Minister.

Jamaica is perceived as many things: a tropical haven of white sand beaches, a continually warm climate. Green rolling hills and plains, and hundreds of hotels make Jamaica a welcome home for tourists year after year.

Officially, the language is English but due to the rich mixture of culture there is a local lingo that is spoken by almost everyone.

A curious footnote to the Caribbean's repute as a cradle of christianity in the West is found in the name Jamaica. It is not known if the Arawaks left any legacy of their religion. Present day religious denominations include Methodists, Catholics, Anglicans and Baptists. The missionaries tried to convert the slaves from Islam and Animism but were commonly discouraged because it was more important to put food on the table.

The combination of Kumina, an African religion and Christianity has resulted in the Pentecostal religion and a variety of Churches of God/Christ.

One of the most urban religions is the Rastafarian which started with Marcus Garvey's Back to Africa Movement. In the 1930s Haile Selassie was crowned Messiah, and even after his death he is still seen as the supreme ruler of the Rastafarians.

Reggae music was developed in the "Rasta Yard", and was internationalized by the Late Hon. Robert Marley.



Jamaicans not only enjoy reggae music as entertainment. There is art, drama and dance featuring such greats as Rex Nettleford, Charles Hyatt and Leonie Forbes; comedy featuring Louise Bennett and the late Ronnie Williams; movies with Jimmy Cliff and Bob Andy; Barry Beckford, Louis Marriot, Dennis Scott and Gloria Lannaman; and Jamaican folk singers such as Olive Lewin.

Jamaicans have also been active in Cricket as a legacy of their British heritage. Achieving international fame during the early days were players like George Headley, Alfred Valentine, J.K. Holt and Alan Rae.

In the world of soccer we had Allan (Skill) Cole; a unique boxer called Bunny Grant and world renowned athletes like Donald Quarry and Marilyn Neufville.

Jamaica is also a land of many tropical fruits and vegetables, Blue Mountain Coffee, sugar cane, overproof rum, banana, pimento, a variety of spices, and top grade bauxite.

But that is not all, Jamaica is also an island blessed with beautiful women. Since 1962 two Miss World titles have gone to Jamaicans. Carol Joan Crawford won in 1963 and Cindy Breakspeare in 1976. Patsy Yuen in 1973, Debbie Campbell, 1979 and Sandra Cunningham, 1981, were runners up.

Jamaica's motto is "Out of Many One People", and Jamaicans of all creed and colour continue to make tremendous contributions throughout the world especially here in Canada.

Continued from page 5

parish of Portland, less than half-an-hour as the crow flies from Kingston, the rainfall can't be measured in inches. Only in buckets. Problem: how to get the water from here to there. It has been that way for the past 21 years. A national water plan has been promised by year's end.

After 21 years, Jamaicans have fallen in love with luxuries. Expensive foreign cars with every extra except wings, videos, stereos, colour TV, carpets, the best liquor... these have now become the constitutional right of the much-travelled middle class. Nice to have, if the country can afford it. But not all the luxuries are tangible. In the '70s, Manley's rhetoric led to an awakening of the rights and aspirations of the suffering masses. But impressive projects and plans couldn't survive the mismanagement, corruption, indiscipline and politicization of everything that moved. In the '80s, there is Seaga, all management and financial wizardry, pulling rabbits (such as the parallel Market) out of his hat. But there is little inspiration or motivation, only the barest bones of benefits of two-party parliamentary democracy. Ackees today, saltfish tomorrow, but never the two together.

Then there is democracy, treated here not as a means to an end, but an end in itself. The way Jamaicans worship at the shrine of democracy would put even Ronald Reagan to shame. When President Carter decided three years ago that, in the great cause of democracy, the US would not compete in the Moscow Olympics — as pointless as cutting off one's nose as ever there was — the US Olympic Committee didn't dare defy him. Had it tried to, the athletes would have gone without Uncle Sam's travel documents. Here, a carefully constructed plank of foreign policy — isolation of South Africa in sport — can be savaged and the nation laughed at by the racists in Pretoria when a handful of top cricketers are lured to play there for 30 pieces of silver.

In the name of democracy a timid government let them go.

Part of the alleged economic crisis is Jamaica's inability — correction — refusal, to feed itself. The countryside is pregnant with fruit going to waste; there is still unused arable land despite lack of conservation; there is no lack of idle hands. Problem: how to bring the lands and the hands together. After 21 years that issue hasn't been addressed. Foreign dollars, earned and borrowed, are still used to import food, a luxury Jamaicans believe they can afford. Meanwhile, at Kingston's traffic lights enterprising youths have become the new "Impact" workers of the '80s — wiping the dust from one side of the windshield to the other, for small change.

Such productivity pales in comparison with the high energy Jamaicans are displaying at the national arena. For the past 15 years, governments, aided and abetted by the two radio stations have convinced the people that what they do best is sing and dance. A prodigious amount of time, energy and resources has been spent in this area. With apologies to the ganja growers, had the nation spent even half of that time, energy and resources in agriculture as it has spent on pop culture, there would be no talk of any crisis today. The cultural revolution started by a younger Seaga back in the 1960s was necessary; a young nation had to shed its colonial garb and find its roots. But even Seaga, as he sat at the Festival Song Finals with the motif of a dreadlocks (wearing a coloured headband not of Jamaica's green, black and gold) staring down at him, must have wondered whether his cultural revolution, like Mao's hadn't gone too far.

Quite apart from the time expended on pop culture, after 21 years it seemed that national culture, supposedly a unifying force, had become synonymous with Rasta culture, a result the government could hardly have intended. Small wonder that the audience included very few Jamaicans who would have been

See LUXURIES page 24

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at any similar event 21 years ago. They had long since been alienated. And while Jamaicans abroad enjoy the fruits of that cultural awakening with reggae records easily available in Toronto, New York or London, it is considerably more difficult to buy a Jamaican mango, papaw, ortanique or banana. That, too, is part of what Jamaicans call the economic crisis: the inability to produce enough products to supply the export market. Successive governments have failed to make a go of agriculture, the only hope for Jamaica to earn its way to lasting prosperity.

The Seaga government, in spite of ample credit made available to farmers, will likely fail too unless it is prepared to mobilize the entire nation to attack the problem as if it were the national emergency that it is. That includes mobilization of the mass media, which has been in the forefront of the cultural revolution. But the chances of that happening are slim. Indeed, there are safer bets at Caymanas Park.

The people will tell you that Jamaica's problems — to the extent there are any — are government created. The politicians-in-power will plead that they are externally created. Both exaggerate. The fault, dear Brutus, lies not so much with Jamaica House or the IMF, but with the people. Mainly, it's their attitudes, the love of high living, class prejudice, personal indiscipline, lack of respect for law and order, love of confrontation rather than consensus. Here it is, not the point that is of consequence, it's the devastating counterpoint! Inability to organize themselves except when putting on a show for foreigners, such as Royal Visits, the 1962 CAC Games and International Conferences.

But there is much hope here. After 21 years the land remains strong, the resources ample, the people ingenious and versatile. Especially in the rural areas the basic decencies of interpersonal relationships remain intact. The masses are well-dressed and well-fed. The deep, hopeless, intractable poverty of Africa and Latin America is not here. The problems are really challenges, eminently capable of being met. Indeed, there is not much wrong with Jamaica in 1983 that a short sharp dose of law, order and discipline won't cure. What has been lacking up to now is the political will to do quickly what has to be done, to act with the fearlessness and decisiveness which National Hero Sir Alexander Bustamante exemplified. Jamaica needs him now more than ever.

Lacking too, has been an understanding of how to motivate Jamaicans. The whip clearly won't work. Slavery has been abolished only 145 years ago; descendants of slaves know how to cope with the slave master. Freedom — the kind so beloved by the sophisticated commentators — won't work either. Give an inch here and it becomes a mile in no time. Jamaicans, it seems respond best to a judicious mix of coaxing and coercion, carrot-and-stick, kiss-and-cuss.

Just ask Parnel Charles, minister of public utilities. It's a short walk from the piazzas of Kingston's Parade to the Arcade. But historians may yet see the Walk of the Higgles as one of the most significant steps in the nation's first 21 years. For there, in microcosm, were Jamaica's opportunities, problems — and

See **HARDSHIPS** page 26



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A Tribute to the Late Alison Gabay

by Alvin Curling



"So many worlds, so much to do so little done such things to be how know I what had need of thee for thou wert strong as thou wert true?"

Tennyson's "In Memoriam" reflects truly Alison Gabay's life. The students and faculty of both Yorkdale Secondary and Elia Junior High, where she taught speak highly of her and as someone who went beyond the call; someone who always went "the extra mile".

Upon the launching of the Caribbean Outreach Program in 1976, Alison was one of the first volunteers who devoted four days per week to provide academic help. Long after the program had ceased, she continued to offer 2 evenings per week.

Gabay's deep spiritual awareness and her strong commitment to her God reflects, no doubt, a life that bears immortal fruit. Her full-grown energies could be seen in her involvement in her church work and the dedication and love to her fellow man. Alison Gabay gave of herself willingly.

The Jamaican Canadian Association, of which she was a member, recalls so well that when "the trumpets hath soundeth", Alison always answered the call.

On the launching of "The School-A-Child" project she was the first to give the full contribution of \$300 to sponsor such a child. In recognition, a Scholarship Fund is being established in her honour.

"What keeps a spirit in holy to that ideal which it bears?"

There were untold generosity, but that was the way Alison Gabay wanted it - no aspiration for recognition.

"WE LOVE YOU ALISON"

Continued from page 16

unsaddled the donkey, tied him out to grass and ate my porridge. Some distance away I could hear the school bells ringing. Oh, I thought to myself, please do not let teacher close those school gates. By the time I arrived, there was a gathering at the school gate, Teacher 'H' was in a bad mood. Some kids had started back for home rather than stand the wrath of six and a penny. That is the name of his leather strap. Remember I had to go in since my test was at 10 a.m. If I missed the test there was no way I would be allowed to take the open exam. Oh how I hated being spanked. By the time teacher 'H' got to me I must have wetted myself at least three times. He was soaking wet but that did not stop him.

I went on to do my mock exam, followed by the open scholarship exam. I obtained a full government scholarship for Cornwall College via Branch Texas College - but that's another story.

What happened to Molly? Well, Henry did catch up with her at the pound and daddy had to pay the fine to retrieve her. I got my usual hiding for adding water to the milk - Henry was threatened with dismissal if it ever happened again.

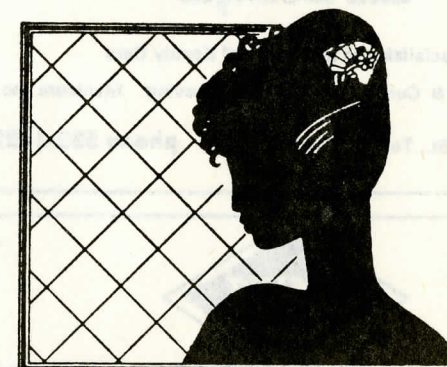
I am now 37 years, married to wife, Hilary with children Mark and Lori Anne. My Grandfather is 84 and still going strong. Henry has eight children and a house in Adelphi. Teacher 'H' is now retired and Adelphi is still the same day after day after day.

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perhaps, solutions. The higglers epitomize the indomitable spirit of a people that will survive all hardships, face every challenge, with ingenuity, perseverance and enterprise. That's the good news. The bad news is that their illegal squatting on the sidewalks for as long as most Jamaicans can remember represents the national penchant for lawlessness and disorder. Parnell Charles moved them. No referendum, no polls, no choice. They had to go — and grumbling they went. But they were not thrown on the streets, as the colonial masters might have done. The carrot of the new Arcade was provided. If the higglers can be moved, so can the mountains. So can the youth, the idle hands. It is simply a matter of finding the right combination to the lock, the right blend of coaxing and coercion.

Seaga, under pressure to restore to health the shattered economy he inherited, may have had no choice but to embark on economic recovery before social reconstruction. It is open to debate whether the cart can be made to go before the horse.

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The experience of Jamaicans abroad — especially in a tightly-ordered, highly regulated society such as Canada — is ample evidence that Jamaicans will grumble, but conform, when laws are passed and enforced without fear or favour. It might have been preferable had these matters been addressed firmly in the first 100 days of the administration. Seaga runs that much more of a political risk to do so with an election two years away. But discipline and respect for law and order must be restored. The social fabric must be repaired. This is why, in the Jamaican context, arguments about socialism versus capitalism are so sterile.

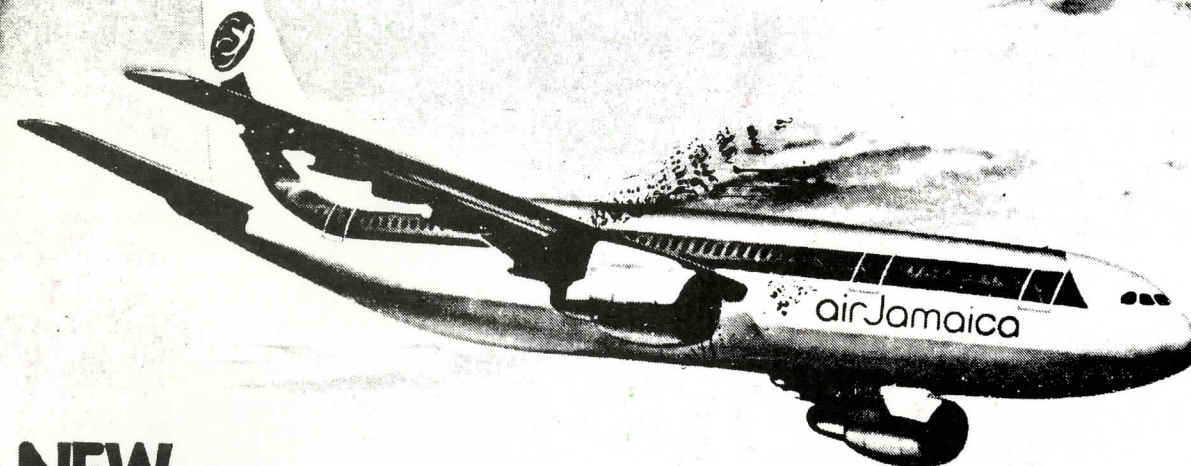
Neither can succeed without discipline. The Singapore Model of a progressive Third World country is based as much on internal order and discipline as on private enterprise.

Jamaicans, spoiled and self-indulgent, have now had some of their candies taken away by the new economic measures. They are not amused and there are danger signs that they may turn the tough Mass Eddie of an earlier time into a genial Uncle Eddie. Yet what is needed now is clear thinking and tough, no-nonsense leadership. Manley failed because of indiscipline within the ranks, preaching one thing and practising another, and because he didn't think his "ism" through. He never seemed to understand that the sole motivator for productivity in democratic socialism — patriotism — was constantly being undermined by the preaching of class hatred. It is left to be seen whether Seaga can "firm" himself up for the remaining two years of his mandate and whether he too, can square his own "ism" — which holds that motivation for material advancement of self and family is the way to productivity — with the clear signals that Manley's theme of self-reliance and self-denial may be the only choice which the international financial community has left small nations like Jamaica. How to spend and save at the same time is a nebulous concept which perhaps Seaga ought to explain sooner rather than later.

After 21 years of independence, Jamaica's heartbeat remains strong. The physical plant — buildings, roads, signs, bridges — are in need of repairs, to be sure. Maintenance is not exactly a national pastime. But the major institutions — media, judiciary, parliament, civil service, security forces, schools — remain intact. The nation in the 1980s is calmer, more relaxed than in the turbulent '70s. The government has done a superb job in restoring confidence. Violent crime has dropped, although much more progress is needed here. But there remains an abysmal inability, at all levels, to organize, manage and motivate people. Jamaica's problems are, in essence, people problems. Moral standards have slipped badly; traditional values have been undermined; life has become cheap; priorities need to be re-ordered. But all these are manageable problems, if the government doesn't lose its nerve.

Amidst all this, Seaga casts about for the \$150 million or so he needs to borrow if Jamaicans are to have their candies, like cheap flights to Miami, once again. While he does that, and the nation reflects on where it has come from and where it is going, the new reggae sensation Ras Karbi belts out his patriotic song "Jamaica I'll Never Leave You Again". The government hopes better times will come for bauxite exports and new investments as the developed world comes out of the recession. Until then, singing and dancing will have to do.

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